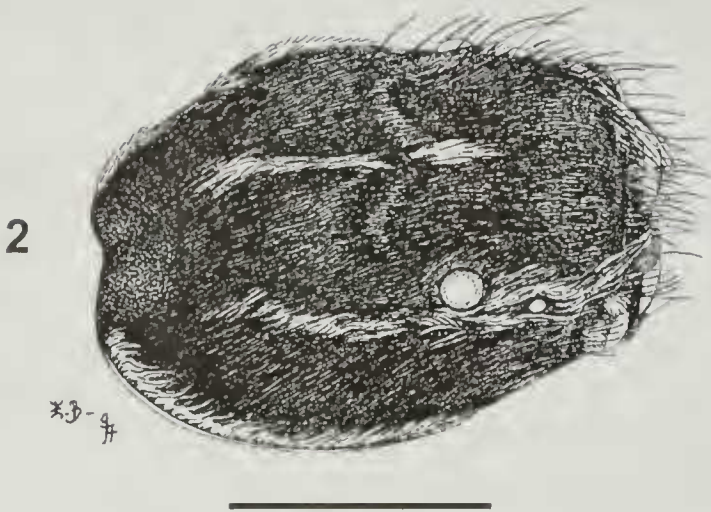


Torbjörn KRONESTEDT: *Sitticus inexpectus* (Araneae, Salticidae) new to Italy

In spring 1997, while "surfing" on the Internet, I came across the zoological database of "Archivio faunistico della Laguna di Venezia" (<http://zetaserver.ivsla.unive.it/slv/>). Among the species listed was *Sitticus rupicola* (C. L. KOCH), a species newly studied in connection with the description of the allied species *Sitticus inexpectus* LOGUNOV & KRONESTEDT (1997). The information in the database caught my interest because it referred to a record from an area close to the sea. While *S. rupicola* is confined to higher altitudes, *S. inexpectus* [previously confused with *S. rupicola* and *S. caricis* (WESTRING)] has been found in lowland localities, part of them close to the sea. As there was a possibility to forward inquiries directly to the database through a "mailbox" over the Internet, I took this opportunity to ask about the

Table 1. Male palpal cymbium and carapace widths (in mm) in *Sitticus inexpectus* and *S. rupicola* (for details of the material, see LOGUNOV & KRONESTEDT 1997)

species	locality	cymbium width (CyW)	carapace width (CW)	ratio CyW/CW(%)
<i>S. inexpectus</i>	Sweden: Öland (holotype)	0.33	1.38	24
	Kazakhstan: Almaty Area, Bakanas	0.35	1.63	22
		0.33	1.50	22
		Austria: Burgenland, Illmitzer Zicksee	0.35	1.48
	Italy: Veneto, Fusina	0.38	1.70	22
	<i>S. rupicola</i>	France: Haute Savoie, Montenvers (nr Chamonix)	0.46	1.33
0.53			1.58	33
0.51			1.58	32



Figs. 1, 2. Male carapace in dorsolateral view. - 1, *Sitticus inexpectus* (Austria, Burgenland). - 2, *S. rupicola* (France, Haute Savoie). Scale bar = 1 mm.

record from the Venetian lagoon. Shortly after, Dr. Harald HANSEN of the Natural History Museum in Venice replied and kindly lent me the single male specimen with the following collecting data:

ITALY: Veneto, Laguna veneta, close by the border of reclaimed land near Fusina, "Cassa colmata A", 27 March 1991 (leg. L. ZANELLA).

The male in fact belongs to *Sitticus inexpectus*. It shows the characteristics of this species given in LOGUNOV & KRONESTEDT (1997), e. g., the short stripe of white hairs on each side of the carapacial slope at the level of the third coxa (cf. *S. inexpectus* in Fig. 1 and *S. rupicola* in Fig. 2), and the relatively small size of the palp (compared with *S. rupicola*) (see Table 1).

The specimen from the Venetian lagoon is so far the southernmost record of *Sitticus inexpectus* in Europe (see map in LOGUNOV & KRONESTEDT 1997), the species previously not being known south of the Neusiedler See area in Burgenland, Austria.

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REFERENCE

LOGUNOV, D. V. & T. KRONESTEDT (1997): A new Palearctic species of the genus *Sitticus* Simon, with notes on related species in the *floricola* group (Araneae, Salticidae). - Bull. Br. arachnol. Soc. 10: 225-233

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